

Message Text

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11

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-05 IO-10

L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05

AECE-00 /085 W

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P R 211127Z NOV 74

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 650

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBSSSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0429

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING OF NOV 18, 1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. AT ITS NOV 18 MEETING, THE AD HOC GROUP (AHG) APPROVED TALKING POINTS FOR THE NOV 19 INFORMAL SESSION, AGREED ON WESTERN SPEAKERS FOR THE REMAINING PLENARIES THIS ROUND, AND APPROVED THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE WEEK OF NOV 11 (TEXT IN MBFR VIENNA A-35). THE GROUP ALSO NOTED AN EXTENSIVE NOV 15 PRAVDA ARTICLE ON MBFR AND DISCUSSED APPROPRIATE WESTERN REACTION. END SUMMARY

TALKING POINTS FOR NOV 19 INFORMAL

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2. WITH WEST LEADING OFF AT NOV 19 INFORMAL, TALKING

POINTS BEGAN BY ATTEMPTING TO ENGAGE EAST IN DISCUSSION OF DATA EXCHANGE. EAST WAS REMINDED OF ALLIED POINTS ON DATA MADE AT NOV 12 INFORMAL, INCLUDING ARGUMENT THAT AGGREGATE AIR PERSONNEL TOTALS ARE ABOUT THE SAME, WITH A SLIGHT ADVANTAGE TO THE EAST, SO INCLUSION OF AIR PERSONNEL IN REDUCTIONS WOULD NOT CHANGE DISPARITIES IN GROUND FORCES. EAST WAS THUS ENCOURAGED TO EXCHANGE DATA ON TOTALS OF GROUND AND AIR FORCES IN THE NGA. THE SECOND TALKING POINTS PAPER REPEATED QUESTIONS FROM THE LAST INFORMAL, WHICH THE EAST HAD NOT ANSWERED. THE THIRD PAPER DELAYED WITH THE ANSWERS THE EAST HAD GIVEN TO CERTAIN ALLIED QUESTIONS NOV 12, AND STATED THAT THOSE EASTERN RESPONSES CONFIRMED THE UNACCEPTABILITY OF THE EASTERN PROPOSAL. THE FINAL PAPER CONTAINED CONTINGENCY RESPONSES TO POSSIBLE EASTERN QUESTIONS.

3. AHG DISCUSSED AND APPROVED THE TALKING POINTS, MAKING MINOR EDITORIAL REVISIONS. IN THE DISCUSSION CANADIAN REP (GRANDE) JOINED THE BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSEN) AND ITALIAN REP (CAGIATI) IN EXPRESSING CONCERN THAT THE WESTERN SIDE HAD NEARLY EXHAUSTED EXISTING NAC GUIDANCE, AND APPEARED TO BE LOSING THE INITIATIVE IN THE TALKS. GRANDE NOTED, IN THIS CONNECTION, THAT THE INFORMAL MEETINGS SINCE OCT 15 HAVE CENTRED ON THE EASTERN INITIAL REDUCTIONS PROPOSAL. US DEP REP, AND OTHER AHG REPS, SAID RECEIPT OF NAC GUIDANCE ON NO-INCREASE OF AIR MANPOWER SHOULD FACILITATE A MORE FRUITFUL INFORMAL SESSION ON NOV 26. UK REP (ROSE), ADRIAENSSEN AND GRANDE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE EAST WOULD NOT REPLY TO INITIAL WESTERN INTERVENTION ON DATA AND THAT THE NOV 19 INFORMAL MEETING WOULD THEN GO ON TO CONCENTRATE EXCLUSIVELY ON THE EASTERN PROPOSAL. ROSE SUGGESTED MOVING BACK TO DATA LATER IN INFORMAL MEETING BY CLAIMING EQUAL TIME FOR IT. US DEP REP WARNED THAT RETURNING TO DATA IN THIS WAY COULD START COMPETITIVE DEBATE ON AGENDA AND TEND TO UNDERMINE THE WESTERN ARGUMENT THAT DISCUSSION OF THE EASTERN PROPOSAL AND OF DATA EXCHANGE COULD BE UNDERTAKEN CONCURRENTLY AND NEED NOT BE VIEWED AS MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE TOPICS. AHG EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING REGARDING THIS DANGER, AND ALSO AGREED TO ADD A FURTHER SECTION TO THE THIRD

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TALKING POINTS PAPER, IN ORDER TO BRING DISCUSSION AT THE NOV 19 INFORMAL BACK TO THE DATA ISSUE.

EASTERN LEAKS ON INITIAL REDUCTION STEP PROPOSAL

4. UK REP (ROSE) CALLED GROUP'S ATTENTION TO LENGTHY PRAVDA ARTICLE OF NOV 15 SUPPORTING EAST'S INITIAL REDUCTION STEP PROPOSAL AND CRITICIZING WESTERN INTRANSIGENCE AT VIENNA TALKS. THE ARTICLE CONTAINED SOME

DETAILS ON THE EASTERN PROPOSAL AND WAS, SAID ROSE, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ARTICLE ON THE PACT PROPOSAL TO APPEAR IN THE EASTERN PRESS SO FAR. ROSE WONDERED IF THE APPEARANCE OF THE ARTICLE MIGHT SIGNAL THE START OF A BROAD PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN BY THE EAST AND SUGGESTED THAT THE WEST PREPARE ITSELF TO RESPOND APPROPRIATELY. FRG REP (BEHREND) SAID THAT CERTAIN EASTERN REPS HE HAD TALKED WITH ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE PRAVDA ARTICLE. HOWEVER, HE BELIEVED THE CORRECT WESTERN APPROACH WOULD BE TO TELL EASTERN REPS AT AN INFORMAL SESSION THAT, IN VIEW OF EASTERN PRESS TREATMENT, THE INITIAL STEP PROPOSAL APPEARED DESIGNED MORE TO IMPRESS THE MEDIA THAN TO CONVINCE WESTERN NEGOTIATORS. FRG REP CONCLUDED THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD TELL EAST THAT THEY CANNOT TAKE SERIOUSLY PROPOSALS DESIGNED MAINLY TO INFLUENCE THE PUBLIC.

5. US DEP REP SAID ALLIED REPS HAD WARNED THE EAST WHAT THEY WOULD DO IF EASTERN LEAKS CONTINUED AND THE WEST NOW HAD LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO BRIEF THE PRESS OF THE BASES FOR ITS OBJECTIONS TO THE EASTERN PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS NOW LARGELY IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. US DEP REP OBSERVED THAT THE WEST WOULD HAVE TO START THINKING ABOUT ITS END-OF-SESSION PRESS CONFERENCE IN THIS LIGHT. THE AHG CONSENSUS WAS THAT THE ALLIES AGAIN SHOULD PROTEST EASTERN LEAKS AT NOV 19 INFORMAL, SHOULD BACK-GROUND WESTERN REPORTERS ON UNACCEPTABILITY OF EASTERN PROPOSAL AND SHOULD, AS SUGGESTED BY BEHREND, TELL EAST THEIR PROPOSAL SEEMED DESIGNED MAINLY FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS PURPOSES.

FUTURE WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENTS

6. THE GROUP AGREED THAT LUXEMBOURG REP (WINTER)

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SHOULD GIVE THE NOV 28 WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT ON THE COMMON CEILING, THAT NETHERLANDS REP (DE VOS) WOULD SPEAK DEC 5 ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES AND THAT US REP WOULD CLOSE THE CURRENT ROUND WITH A DEC. 12 SUMMING-UP STATEMENT. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT, IF THE EAST DID NOT INTEND TO SPEAK NOV 21, THERE WOULD BE NO PLENARY THIS WEEK. BELGIAN REP WAS INSTRUCTED TO SO INFORM THE EAST. RESOR

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